

Allen, Kara

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 12:25 PM
To: Allen, Kara
Subject: FW: Crossett
Attachments: Agenda_Crossett Air Charrette.docx

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2016 5:38 PM
To: Hansen, Mark <Hansen.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Crossett

Sent from my Windows Phone

From: [Blanco, Arturo](#)
Sent: 6/30/2016 9:54 AM
To: [Stenger, Wren](#)
Cc: [Blevins, John](#); [Price, Lisa](#); [Anderson, Israel](#); [Tillman, Tressa](#); [Smith, Rhonda](#)
Subject: RE: Crossett

Wren,

We are trying to convene a meeting (charrette) with community with the attached in mind. We were hoping to have the charrette in July, before the EJ Summit; however, all GP key people for the Charrette are unavailable until September and the community neighbors of West Crossett declined to come to Dallas for the purpose of the EJ Summit. With respect to the EJ Summit, GP and the State (environmental and health – both invited) will briefly discuss progress of monitoring and results. When charrette is held, we propose to focus on voluntary air monitoring, improving communication and cooperation among key stakeholders in ways we can collectively make progress moving forward.

Arturo

Arturo J. Blanco
Director
Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal and International Affairs
US EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue (6RA-DA)
Dallas, TX 75202
214.665.3182 (o)
214.531.8629 (m)



From: Stenger, Wren

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 8:49 AM

To: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>

Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>

Subject: Crossett

Arturo, I suggest we get together with John to discuss objective of meeting with community. What is our strategy at this point?

Sent from my Windows Phone

Crossett Air Quality Charrette

Saturday, July 16, 2016 ~ 1:30 to 3:45 p.m.

Crossett Public Library, 1700 S. Main Street, Crossett, AR 71635 (Community Room)

Facilitator: To Be Determined

Draft Agenda

Introductions

Meeting Overview

- A charrette is a meeting in where stakeholders in a project attempt to resolve conflicts and map solutions.
- Concerns have been expressed by some community members about air emissions, water discharges, and other issues related to public health and the environment.
- This charrette will be an opportunity to share information on the voluntary air monitoring that has been conducted in Crossett and to talk about ways the community can work together on any ongoing concerns.
- The goal is to provide a forum where key representatives from the community, local government, State agencies, and industry can voice their perspectives and hear the viewpoints of others in an effort to improve communication and cooperation.

Discussion

- What are the current perspectives on air quality in Crossett?
- What is the desired vision for air quality in Crossett?
- How can the community stakeholders work together to achieve the vision?
- What are the challenges and barriers to working together?
- How can the community stakeholders overcome those challenges?

Meeting Summary

- Review key discussion points.
- Identify 2-3 next steps on the path to moving forward.

Adjourn

Allen, Kara

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 12:24 PM
To: Allen, Kara
Subject: FW: Crossett

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 5:54 PM
To: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Edlund, Carl <edlund.carl@epa.gov>
Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Crossett

Thanks Arturo.

WREN STENGER

Director

Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division

EPA Region 6 Dallas, Texas

214.665.6583

From: Blanco, Arturo
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 11:20 AM
To: Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>; Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>
Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Crossett

I will set up a meeting for just us. I also had already asked Israel and Tressa to set up a meeting with the Crossett team, including Sam, so I will schedule our smaller meeting before. What I see as steps of an exit strategy, which I will discuss in our meeting, are the following steps:

- Completed steps of the action plan put in effect in 2014.
- Results of the voluntary air monitoring, written report with conclusion by ADH and ATSDR, and community meeting (which I would expect post charrette) to discuss the results (including water results).
- Additional air monitoring being sought through MVD (with ORD involvement).
- Convening charrette to facilitate dialog involving West Crossett and GP (with expertise in the meeting from air, water and EN).
- Specified commitments (some of which is in progress) by GP.
- LEPC in effect with defined key participants by stakeholders involved.

By the way, Crossett is a MVD community (at least EPA refers to it as MVD: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/making-visible-difference-communities>). I understand Tom Ruiz is the program lead.

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From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2016 9:58 AM
To: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>
Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Crossett

Arturo,

Will you set up a meeting for Directors only (Carl, John, Bill) to discuss? You offered some interesting in-sight, but I still don't have a clear picture of what is expected of my staff. For example, if Crossett is to be a R6 MVD community, seems some program needs to have the lead, like we have done in the past with other communities. Also, focusing a charrette on air when it seems the concern for an MVD community is establishing a network to communicate with GP and the local LEPC doesn't seem to move this in the right direction.

WREN STENGER
Director
Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division
EPA Region 6 Dallas, Texas
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From: Blanco, Arturo
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2016 9:03 AM
To: Edlund, Carl <Edlund.Carl@epa.gov>; Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>
Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>; Hansen, Mark <Hansen.Mark@epa.gov>; Phillips, Pam <phillips.pam@epa.gov>; Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>; Ruiz, Thomas <Ruiz.Thomas@epa.gov>; Smith, Rhonda <smith.rhonda@epa.gov>; Anderson, Israel <Anderson.Israel@epa.gov>; Tillman, Tressa <tillman.tressa@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Crossett

In brief, I would like us to return to the consideration of Crossett being an MVD priority, re-examine why it was selected and re-assess where we are on the MVD plan for Crossett. That said, here is what obvious to me:

- Citizens in Crossett remain concerned about air emissions and water discharges.
- Notable concerns expressed by stakeholders in terms of not knowing who all key players are (on the part of GP), what is the end in sight (by Crossett, GP, EPA, State), the lack of communication between GP and West Crossett residents, and how communication could be bridged (based on common interest). Some concerning issues are:
 - Few if any officially reported pollution complaints (not necessarily due to lack of problem; why that is; how to improve this situation).
 - What constitutes an emergency, how does one know about it and what to do when it happens.
 - What could Crossett citizens learn overall about effective public participation in the regulatory process with respect to GP.
 - What could GP learn about community engagement and staying responsive to all concerned citizens in Crossett.
 - How could consideration for a community preparedness plan could help folks be interested in effectively talking with each other.
- Work results by EPA, ADEQ, ADH and GP, what do the results suggest and what else remains to do.

I don't mean to be all inclusive with the above mentioned. I do think that the lack of effective community communication (or no communication at all) is a problem and for this reason, with the help a conflict resolution expert (we are coordinating to bring one), we have proposed the charrette (tentatively accepted by key sides) when all parties can meet. To enhance the possibility of success, we want to initially narrow our focus on the air issue from the citizens' perspective, the voluntary air monitoring and other air progress made, and the work of the agencies in this regard. Depending on how this goes, build on this charrette which could require a second facilitated charrette.

Meanwhile, I agree that we should consolidate a plan. I invite your feedback in welcoming a meeting with all the addressees to flesh out where we are heading with MVD end goal in mind, and after fleshing out seek the help of our state partners.

Arturo

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From: Edlund, Carl
Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2016 5:11 PM
To: Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>
Cc: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>;

Hansen, Mark <Hansen.Mark@epa.gov>; Phillips, Pam <phillips.pam@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Crossett

Thanks for looping me into the conversation Wren. Please include Pam and me in the dialogue We'd also be interested in seeing the attachment.

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 5, 2016, at 4:50 PM, Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov> wrote:

Thanks Arturo. Maybe the schedule delay is a sign and an opportunity for us to get together, discuss where we are going, and develop an exit strategy? I know we have chatted several times, but it would be helpful if we (the programs, EJ, and Sam) had a master plan developed. I am not sure what the charrette goal will be or where it leads EPA. A better understanding of both would help clarify how we can participate and contribute. What do you think?

WREN STENGER

Director

Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division

EPA Region 6 Dallas, Texas

214.665.6583

From: Blanco, Arturo

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 9:54 AM

To: Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>

Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>; Anderson, Israel <Anderson.Israel@epa.gov>; Tillman, Tressa <tillman.tressa@epa.gov>; Smith, Rhonda <smith.rhonda@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Crossett

Wren,

We are trying to convene a meeting (charrette) with community with the attached in mind. We were hoping to have the charrette in July, before the EJ Summit; however, all GP key people for the Charrette are unavailable until September and the community neighbors of West Crossett declined to come to Dallas for the purpose of the EJ Summit. With respect to the EJ Summit, GP and the State (environmental and health – both invited) will briefly discuss progress of monitoring and results. When charrette is held, we propose to focus on voluntary air monitoring, improving communication and cooperation among key stakeholders in ways we can collectively make progress moving forward.

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Director

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<image001.jpg><image002.jpg>

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Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 8:49 AM
To: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>
Cc: Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>
Subject: Crossett

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Allen, Kara

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 12:22 PM
To: Allen, Kara
Subject: FW: Crossett meeting - request for support

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2016 7:17 AM
To: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Blevins, John <Blevins.John@epa.gov>; Honker, William <honker.william@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Crossett meeting - request for support

John, it seems that you may have staff that are most familiar with all of the stated concerns and could best address most of the issues in addition to possibly guiding GP in some next steps. Would you take the lead on this? Now, having said this, if it isn't accurate or we are needed, Air will provide a person to attend. Let me know so we can support Arturo.

From: Blanco, Arturo
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2016 5:02:57 PM
To: Stenger, Wren; Blevins, John; Honker, William
Subject: Crossett meeting - request for support

Dear Colleagues,

I need your support for a stakeholder meeting between Crossett Concerned Citizens for Environmental Justice and Georgia-Pacific LLC (GP) on August 16, 2016, in Crossett, Arkansas. Things have changed since we talked last, and the change incremented our need for having staff participation from your program. This meeting originally would include staff from ADEQ and ADH. However, after back and forth negotiations, both the community group and GP have informed us that they would like to proceed with a smaller group that includes just themselves and staff from EPA Region 6. The focus of the meeting is to discuss community concerns about environmental odors and hydrogen sulfide emissions. The reason for the request for programmatic support is so that we are prepared to adequately respond to the related air, water, and enforcement elements of this issue. For example, we know that community members have expressed concern about odors and emissions from the facility as well as the wastewater treatment system. This will be the first time that the concerned citizens and GP meet directly face to face. Having staff who can respond to questions on these issues will help us maximize this opportunity to move the needle forward with both the community and the facility.

Please let me know by tomorrow or early Friday. I would like to give Sam a heads up before meeting with him on Monday.

Thank you,

Arturo

Arturo J. Blanco
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Allen, Kara

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 12:20 PM
To: Allen, Kara
Subject: FW: GP Crossett

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 11:51 AM
To: Donaldson, Guy <Donaldson.Guy@epa.gov>; Verhalen, Frances <verhalen.frances@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: GP Crossett

FYI

From: Gray, David
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 10:34 AM
To: Curry, Ron <Curry.Ron@epa.gov>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Dwyer, Stacey <Dwyer.Stacey@epa.gov>; Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>
Subject: GP Crossett

All – we will make notifications later this afternoon.

Later this week, EPA will begin placing air monitors to measure the amount of hydrogen sulfide emissions in Crossett, Arkansas. The project has been closely coordinated with City officials, Georgia-Pacific officials and community leaders in an effort to gather additional scientific information regarding possible hydrogen sulfide emission sources in the area. Georgia-Pacific agreed to place eleven monitor locations within their plant boundaries. City and community leaders agreed to the location of an additional nine monitoring locations within the community. A total of twenty passive air monitors will collect hydrogen sulfide samples. Each sample will be collected over a two week intervals for up to 6 months. When the project is completed, sample data results will be publicly available.

Allen, Kara

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Allen, Kara
Subject: FW: Agenda topic for EPA Directors and ADEQ meeting on GP/Crossett

-----Original Message-----

From: Stenger, Wren
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 8:21 AM
To: Verhalen, Frances <verhalen.frances@epa.gov>; Robinson, Jeffrey <Robinson.Jeffrey@epa.gov>
Cc: Donaldson, Guy <Donaldson.Guy@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Agenda topic for EPA Directors and ADEQ meeting on GP/Crossett

Just FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Smith, Rhonda
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 7:43 AM
To: Moncrieffe, Marcia <Moncrieffe.Marcia@epa.gov>
Cc: Blanco, Arturo <Blanco.Arturo@epa.gov>; Coleman, Sam <Coleman.Sam@epa.gov>; Vaughn, Gloria <Vaughn.Gloria@epa.gov>; Tillman, Tressa <tillman.tressa@epa.gov>
Subject: Agenda topic for EPA Directors and ADEQ meeting on GP/Crossett

One of the concerns that has been expressed recently by the community is the data from the air monitor that show numerous exceedances, and what is being done to protect the community.

Our understanding is that ADEQ is putting the information on their website with a summarization from ADH of what the data means. However, is ADH or ADEQ actually investigating the exceedances and following up with GP to find out what happened on the day and at that time, are changes in process being put in place to reduce the exceedances, and are they meeting with Crossett citizens to explain the exceedance in a timely manner.

Recommended agenda item:

Discuss investigatory process used when data from air monitors have numerous significant exceedances for H2S, and the timeliness of meetings to explain data to the community.

Rhonda M. Smith, MBA, MA
Deputy Director, OEJTIA
Office of Environmental Justice,
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